

## STATE of MINNESOTA

## Proclamation

WHEREAS: In honor of Thanksgiving Day 1961, President John F. Kennedy wrote, "We are grateful

for the blessings of faith and health and strength and for the imperishable spiritual gifts of love and hope. We give thanks, too, for our freedom as a nation; for the strength of our

arms and the faith of our friends; for the beliefs and confidence we share; for our determination to stand firmly for what we believe to be right and to resist mightily what we believe to be base; and for the heritage of liberty bequeathed by our ancestors which

we are privileged to preserve for our children and our children's children"; and

WHEREAS: We give thanks for the blessings and joys in our lives, and pray that those who mourn

find comfort, that those who are in harm's way find safety, and that we all continue to

look after the state we love; and

WHEREAS: We give thanks for the continuing service of our heroic military men and women, law

enforcement personnel, and their families, whose selfless sacrifices ensure the safety and

freedom we deeply cherish; and

WHEREAS: We give thanks for the beauty of Minnesota's land and the dedication of our farm

families, whose efforts put food on Thanksgiving tables across our entire nation; and

WHEREAS: We give thanks for the progress achieved through learning, productivity, and innovation,

which make Minnesota a leader in business and education; and

WHEREAS: We give thanks for the high quality of life we enjoy in Minnesota, due in part to our

efforts in health care, high level of volunteerism, world-class educational system, and the

abundance of valuable services provided to the citizens of our state; and

WHEREAS: Even in these trying economic times, we must pause to reflect on our freedoms, our

blessings, and our democratic way of life, and give thanks for all that we are provided.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim November 24, 2011 as:

## THANKSGIVING DAY

in the State of Minnesota, as a time to enjoy togetherness and the bounty of our land.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November.

GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE